The Repeater

The Vaca Valley Radio Club Newsletter

The Final?? Newsletter

The explanation is inside!

The Newsletter for September 2025

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THE VACA VALLEY RADIO CLUB WELCOMES YOU

The Vaca Valley Radio Club has proudly served the Northern Solano County Area since 1988. We pride ourselves in providing a friendly place for radio amateurs to meet and improve their operating skills.

We participate in public service events throughout the year and are always ready to assist with communications during times of emergency.

Browse our website for more information about our club. If you have any questions, please e-mail us at w6vvr@w6vvr.net or call 707-448-5665 for assistance.

The Repeater is Published by the Vaca Valley Radio Club, PO Box 912, Vacaville, CA 95696-0912.

An ARRL Affiliated Club. Founded 1987, Chartered 1988.

General Meetings: 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM.
See the directions on the last several pages.

Meetings Are Wheelchair Accessible

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A Message from The Editors of The Repeater

Welcome to September!

It is time to give the explanation of where the newsletter went for the last two months. It is actually a simple one. I got busy with real life, working long hours and sleeping. I barely had time to do any net check ins, much less take the time to work on the newsletter.

That being said, since I am STILL too busy right now with life, I am looking for someone with more free time to step up and either assist me or completely take over writing the newsletter.

If I can't find anyone to do it, then this will have to be the last issue of the newsletter.

And that is that!

Now time to move on....

There really isn't anything happening in September so its time to plan ahead for October.

The S.E.T. and Pacificon and The Great Shakeout are all coming up.

Coming in Mid October is Pacificon.

The dates are October 10 through Sunday October 12.

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A Message from The President

Unfortunately, as of the publishing deadline, I did not receive any message from the President Servando Miramontes, K6SRV

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A message from the Vice President

Unfortunately, as of the publishing deadline, I did not receive any message from the Vice President Dan Martin N6ETR

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A message from the Treasurer

Unfortunately, as of the publishing deadline, I did not receive any message from the Treasurer Bryan KB0A

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A Message from the Secretary

Unfortunately, as of the publishing deadline, I did not receive any message from the Secretary Mike Gregory WB6WYF

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Meetings recorded by the Secretary

VACA VALLEY RADIO CLUB MEETING
8/14/2025

Meeting opened by President Servando Miramontesat, K6SRV, 1903 hours.

Pledge of Allegiance held

Servando announced that this would be his last meeting as President of the club. Jon Schulman will be taking over the role until the next election.
He also said that this will be Art Aronsen's last meeting. Art will be moving to Idaho.

Servando talked about his recent visit to the USS Hornet docked in Alameda. She is now a museum ship. His trip was two fold, to see the ship and to obtain some equipment for the MARS network.

Servando reported that the clubs assistance in Dixon's celebration of the Dia De los Meurtos went very well and we have been asked to provide the same parking services next celebration. This years celebration will be on 11/2/25. He started the process of taking names for this years participants.

Jon Schulman and Servando talked about the Alcatraz trip. The trip did not happen as no one was able to participate. We have received monies for QSL cards for the event that did not happen. The money will be returned by the club.

Brian Steinberg reported that the clubs finances are growing and all is looking well.

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A general discussion was held on this years Christmas Party. Several places are being looked at including, Solano Brewing Company, Chevy's and Chuys mexican food in Winters. Jon Schulman informed us that the Brewing Company wanted a $700.00 deposit to hold the room in addition to the cost of the event. More to follow as plans are finalized.

No further business appearing before the club the meeting was adjourned at 2005 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Gregory, WB6WYF
Secretary

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The Simulated Emergency Training Drill

The Simulated Emergency Training drill is set for October 4-5

From the ARRL Website:

ARRL's Simulated Emergency Test (SET) is October 4 - 5, 2025, and this nationwide exercise is the chance to test your personal emergency-operating skills and the readiness of your communications equipment and accessories in a simulated emergency-like deployment.

Please remember that station readiness and personal training and practice are tenets of the Amateur Radio Service. Any time we spend on the air will contribute to developing and practicing our personal radio communication capability.

Perhaps we can take the weekend and set up an actual drill from local parks to communicate and pass emergency test messages back and forth.

Everyone picking a local park near their home to use.

We use simplex only, as if the repeater isn't available.

We can add digital as well and learn various modes.

Perhaps even have some stations that "interfere" to give us a chance to figure out workarounds.

Lets discuss these ideas in the September meeting and see if we can come up with a plan.

Thats it for the S.E.T.

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Pacificon 2025

Pacificon is approaching quickly!

The West Coast premier Ham Fest is coming once again to San Ramon.

The dates for Pacificon are October 10-12, 2025

Registration is $35.00 if you are preregistered before the event and $45 at the door.

There is the option of staying at the hotel.

All information is available at thei webstite::

https://www.pacificon.org/

I am still waiting on details about events and forums but I anticipate it to be similar to the previous years.

Thats all about Pacificon

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The Great Shakeout

A history of the Great Shake Out:

The ShakeOut began in Southern California in 2008 as a drill designed to educate the public about how to protect themselves during a large earthquake, and how to get prepared.

Since then it has grown:

Great Shakeout Earthquake Drills are now held in more than 20 Official ShakeOut Regions, along with an option for people in any other state or country to also register and be counted in the global total.

New ShakeOut Regions are established each year. Please contact us if you are interested in coordinating a ShakeOut Region for your state, province, or country.

How you can participate:

Using winlink:

there is a DYFI page that you can report if you felt it.

You can go to https://earthquake.usgs.gov/data/dyfi/index.php

and report it that way.

Thats all on The Great Shake Out

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The Learning Corner

This month we will explore:

That's all for now.

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Recurring Club Meetings and Events
May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1 Labor Day	2 Club Net	3	4 Cow Town Football Season starts	5	6
7	8	9 Club Net	10	11 Cow Town Club Meeting	12	13 KK6ZJC Ecomm training 1900 hrs
14	15	16 Club Net	17	18 Cow Town	19	20 KK6ZJC Zoom Morse Code Practice 1900 hrs
21	22	23 Club Net	24	25 Cow Town	26	27
28	291	30 Club Net	1	2 Cow Town	3	4

Monthly Meetings are held at the Nut Tree Airport Vacaville CA	KK6ZJC can be reached by email at srb6101@gmail.com.	

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Information About Recurring Club Meetings and Events

The club net is at 2000 hours EVERY Tuesday using the W6VVR Repeater:

Receive 145.470 Transmit 144.870 CTCSS Tone 127.3

The Club Cow Town is a general rag chew every Thursday on the W6VVR Repeater. It starts about 1000-1030 local time using the same frequencies as above,

The monthly Club meeting is always held the second Thursday of the month at the Nut Tree Airport. The meeting starts at 7PM local time and generally runs through about 9PM. Directions to the meeting can be found at the end of the newsletter.

Every Saturday the same week as the club meeting at 1900 hours local time KK6ZJC will be using zoom to practice passing messages.

Anyone wishing to join in contact KK6ZJC by email at srb6101@gmail.com.

Please put ECOMM TRAINING in the subject.

I will generally check my emails right through Saturday night about 1830 hours local time. After 1915 hours if no one joins the meeting, I shut Zoom down

It is a great way to learn how to pass messages using the ICS-213 form, or practicing sending messages for the general public using the ARRL forms.

I will be running a zoom session on the third week of the month for anyone that wants to do practice session for Morse code. If you send an email to srb6101@gmail.com and let me know I will send a link to the zoom meeting.

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Special Club Meetings and Other Events in the area

I am listing all special events the club is looking for volunteers to assist in, fox hunts, or events out of the ordinary.

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Contest

Below is link to a great contesting website by fellow Amateur Radio Operator Bruce Horn, WA7BNM

https://contestcalendar.com/

The calendar list contest in multiple ways.

It is easy to use and regularly updated.

Hope that it helps you with your contesting!

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Links for equipment and parts for your Station

This will be by no means a complete list, and you should verify if what you need is available.

Obviously, I am going to start with amateur radio suppliers such as:

Ham Radio Outlet

DX Engineering

Gigaparts

Next are antenna parts suppliers:

American Radio Supply

Amateur Radio Supplies

Continental Steel

Stock Car Steel

Aluminum Wholesalers

Continued on the next page.

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And electronics parts suppliers:

Mouser Electronics

Jameco Electronics

Arrow Electronics

Digikey Electronics

Newark

Elliott Electronic Supply

Test Equipment:

Test Equipment Depot

Siglent Technologies

Jameco Electronics

Fluke

As I have said this is by no means a complete list but you should recognize most names on the list.

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The Club Repeater(s)

The Vaca Valley Radio Club sponsors repeaters on several bands.

The club provides some financial support, but the owners provide a substantial portion of the cost of their operation.

The efforts of the owners are greatly appreciated.

The main repeater for the club is: Call Sign: W6VVR

Output Frequency: 145.470MHz
Input Frequency: 144.870MHz
Offset Frequency: 600KHz
Offset Direction: Minus
CTCSS tone (P.L.): 127.3Hz

Vaca Valley Radio Club Sponsored Repeaters
As Of November 1, 2023

Rptr Out	Offset	P.L.	Call/ Location	Linked Repeaters
145.470	Minus 600 KHz	127.3	W6VVR Mt Vaca	Linked to 441.650 MHz
440.025	Plus 5 MHz	127.3	WV6F Mt Vaca	
441.650	Plus 5 MHz	100.0	N6VLF Fairfield	Linked to 145.470 MHz
145.140	Minus 600 KHz	700.0 DG-ID 00-00	Moderate level	Can operate Yaesu Fusion AMS Can be linked to 145.470 MHz or 441.650 MHz

Visitors are welcome to use the repeaters.

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EchoLink and AllStar Nodes

The Vaca Valley Radio Club operates both an EchoLink and an Allstar Nodes that link to the clubs main repeater on 145.470 MHz on top of Mt Vaca.

NOTE: EchoLink is UP, Allstar node is UP.

Call Sign: W6VVR

EchoLink Node 454312 W6VVR-R

Allstar Node 51094

Visitors are welcome to use the nodes.

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2025 Officers:

President:	Servando Miramontes	K6SRV
Vice President:	Dan Martin	N6ETR
Treasurer:	Brian Steinberg	KB0A
Secretary:	Mike Gregory	WB6WYF

2025 Board of Directors:

Art Aronsen	WD6BQX
Chris Swanson	KJ6DLF
Mike Rogers	KN6MIO
Stephen Bartels	KK6ZJC

Net Control Operators

1st Week Of The Month	Bob Hawkins	KM6BXZ
2nd Week Of The Month	Chris Swanson	KJ6DLF
3rd Week Of The Month	Frank Garay	KJ6RWQ
4th Week Of The Month	Dan Martin	N6ETR
5th Week Of The Month	Dan Martin	N6ETR

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VOLUNTEER POSITIONS:

Membership	Bryan Steinberg	KB0A
Repeater Trustee	Brian Hagen	KK6BXP
Repeater Committee Chair	Brian Hagen	KK6BXP
Newsletter Editor		
Webmaster	Bryan Steinberg	KB0A
Net Control Coordinator (Filled by the Vice President as per the Club Constitution)	Dan Martin	N6ETR
Activities Committee Chair	Don Preston	KM6INR
Monthly Message Passing Practice Net	Stephen Bartels	KK6ZJC
Foxhunt Coordinator	Stephen Bartels	KK6ZJC
Parks on the Air Coordinator	Servando Miramontes	K6SRV
Bicycle Events Coordinator		
Parade Events Coordinator		
Winter Field Day Committee		
Dixon Mayfair Parade	Servando Miramontes	K6SRV
June Field Day Committee		

Continued on the next page.

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Volunteer Positions (Continued)

Dia De Los Muertos	Servando Miramontes	KK6ZJC
Merriment on Main (Vacaville)		
Dixon Tree Lighting		
Fairfield Tree Lighting		
December Meeting		
Public Information Officer		
Winlink Committee Chair		
FL-Digi Committee Chair		
Morse Code Training Sessions		
AREDN Committee Chair		

We still have numerous committees that need chairpersons and volunteers for the upcoming year (2025). (See the list above.) They need to be filled for the upcoming year by younger volunteers and those with experience to guide the club forward into the future.

This is your club. You can make it a great club by participating in meetings, events, and nets, or you can watch the club wither away and die from lack of participation by ALL members.

It is in your hands, are you going to watch the club end? Or, are you going to jump in and help steer the club forward to the future?

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Vaca Valley Radio Club, Inc

Membership Application/Renewal Form

November 2019 Dues are payable annually.

New Members Please Fill in All Fields Completely
Renewing Members Please Provide Name and Call Sign,
Other Fields *Only if there are changes*

Member Information

FCC Name:_____

Street:_____

Street 2:_____

City:_____

State:_____ Zip-Code+4:_____

Home Phone:_____

Cell Phone:_____

Call Sign:_____

License Class:_____

ARRL Member?_____

Member No:_____

Name Badge Name_____

Payment Information

Member Dues: $25.00 _____

Additional Family Members: $2.00 _____

Student: $5.00 _____

Repeater Donation: _____

Total:_____$_____

Paid by Check: $_____

Check number: _____

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Family Member (Spouse or Children)

FCC Name:_____

Call Sign:_____

License Class:_____

ARRL Member?_____

Member No:_____

Name Badge Name_____

Family Member (Spouse or Children)

FCC Name:_____

Call Sign:_____

License Class:_____

ARRL Member?_____

Member No:_____

Name Badge Name_____

Family Member (Spouse or Children)

FCC Name:_____

Call Sign:_____

License Class:_____

ARRL Member?_____

Member No:_____

Name Badge Name_____

Family Member (Spouse or Children)

FCC Name:_____

Call Sign:_____

License Class:_____

ARRL Member?_____

Member No:_____

Name Badge Name_____

Family Member (Spouse or Children)

FCC Name:_____

Call Sign:_____

License Class:_____

ARRL Member?_____

Member No:_____

Name Badge Name_____

Family Member (Spouse or Children)

Name:_____

Call Sign:_____

License Class:_____

ARRL Member?_____

Member No:_____

Name Badge Name_____

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Directions To the Monthly Meeting from Fairfield, Suisun City And Other Areas West of Vacaville

Coming from Fairfield: Take Highway 80 East Bound. Take exit 55 Nut Tree Parkway / Allison Drive. Stay to the left and enter the right left turn lane

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Turn left from the right turn lane and stay in the right lane. Be careful not to get back on the highway entrance.

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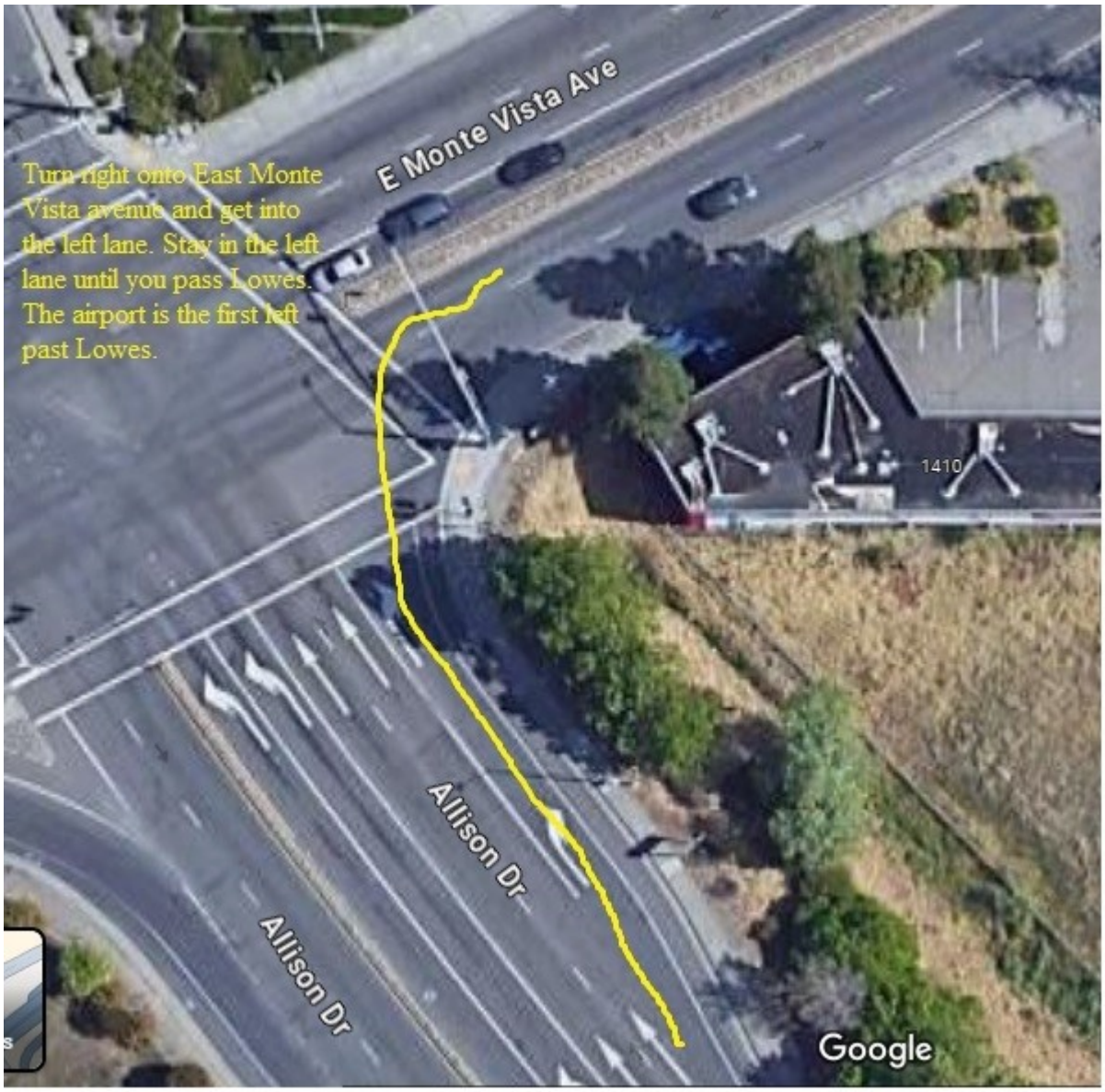
Go over the overpass and make the right turn onto East Monte Vista Avenue.



Get in the left lane of E Monte Vista Avenue and drive East until you pass Lowes.

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The airport is immediately past the Lowes Parking lot.

Turn left and drive to the airport parking lot on your right.

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Directions To The Monthly Meeting From Dixon, Sacramento And Other Areas East of Vacaville

Coming West from Dixon take the E Monte Vista Avenue exit, (exit 55)

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Take the Right turn Lane at the exit

Stay in the right lane until the light.

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At the light turn Right and get into the left lane.

After making the right turn, get into the left lane and drive East until you see Lowes.

Turn left and drive to the airport parking lot on your right.

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